

Message Text

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64

ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY DOD/ISA/NESA:LTC PIANKA:TL

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APPROVED BY NEA:ALATHERTON, JR.

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----- 125091

R 022330Z AUG 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

S E C R E T STATE 152687

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, JO

SUBJ: SALADINS FOR YEMEN

REF: STATE 146705; AMMAN 3979

1. YOU MAY INFORM JORDANIANS WE CAN MAKE 40 M48A1 TANKS AVAILABLE FOR SHIPMENT AT A UNIT COST OF DOLLARS 21,870.80 WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER RECEIPT OF SIGNED LETTER OF OFFER. OVERSEAS TRANSPORTATION WOULD REQUIRE AN ADDITIONAL 60 TO 90 DAYS. THE TOTAL COST OF THE TANKS WOULD BE CONSIDERABLY LESS THAN THE PROCEEDS OF SALADIN SALE, AND THE MARGIN OF PROFIT COULD FINANCE INSTALLATION OF NIGHT VISION AND NIGHT SIGHTING EQUIPMENT. THE TANKS ARE PRESENTLY LOCATED IN DEPOTS AND WOULD BE SOLD IN AS-IS CONDITION BUT WE UNDERSTAND THAT THEY ARE OPERABLE. JORDANIANS MAY WANT TO SEND ONE OR MORE QUALIFIED ARMOR OFFICERS TO EXAMINE THE TANKS AVAILABLE AND CHOOSE THOSE IN BEST CONDITION.

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2. WE RECOGNIZE JORDAN'S PREFERENCE FOR THE M48A3, BUT ARE UNABLE TO SHORTEN 2-YEAR LEAD-TIME WITHOUT SERIOUS DISRUPTION TO U.S. ARMY ASSETS- FYI: AS YOU KNOW, JORDAN ALREADY HAS THE TECHNICAL EXPERTISE TO RETROFIT EARLY

MODEL TANKS AND HAS DIESELIZED AN M48A1. SINCE ONE OPTION UNDER CONSIDERATION IN THE GRANGER REPORT IS THE PROVISION OF A TANK REBUILD FACILITY, THE JORDANIANS MAY IN FACT BE ABLE TO PURCHASE THE M48A1'S AND INCORPORATE THE DIESEL ENGINE AND POSSIBLY OTHER DESIRED FEATURES. END FYI. ROGERS

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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